

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. Reconsideration of the subject patent application in view of the present remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 is amended.

Claims 3, 5-8, 10-12, 14-19, and 21 are withdrawn

Election/restrictions

The Examiner states that Species VII of Fig. 33 reads on claims 1, 2, 4, 9, 13, 23 and 25. However, the applicants believe that Species VII also reads on claims 22 and 24. Supports for claim 22 are found on page 47, lines 13-24 and page 49, lines 13-16, and for claim 24 on page 47, lines 1-24 in the ninth embodiment that corresponds to Species VII description.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1, 2, 4, 9, 13, 23 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shoji et al. (U.S. PG-PUB NO. 2002/0169010; hereinafter "Shoji"). For the following reasons, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding the amended claim 1, Shoji does not disclose, teach or render foreseeable a connection portion, connecting the first casing to the second casing so as to freely rotate through a rotation shaft provided in the connection portion, wherein the connection portion including the rotation shaft has electric conductivity to form a dipole antenna as a whole by the first antenna element, the connection portion and the conductor element.

The portable radio device according to the claimed invention (the amended claim 1) includes a connection portion, connecting the first casing to the second casing so as to freely rotate through a rotation shaft provided in the connection portion. Further, the connection portion including the rotating shaft has an electric conductivity. That is, both of the structural connection and the electrical connection are achieved by the connection portion including the rotating shaft (see Fig. 33, etc.) As a result, the first antenna element, the connection portion and the conductor element form a dipole antenna as a whole.

On the other hand, the Shoji reference fails to disclose the above feature. In Shoji, the hinge portion 2 structurally connects the upper casing 3 to the lower casing 4. Further, the flexible cable 9 is interposed between the shield box 14 (the alleged first antenna element) and ground layer 10b' (the alleged conductor element), and electrically connects them. The hinge portion 2, which connects and rotates the upper casing 3 with respect to the lower casing 4, is separated away from the flexible cable 9. That is, the structural rotational connection (2) and the electrical connection (9) are separated from each other.

Accordingly, Shoji does not meet all of the limitations of claim 1. Therefore, Shoji does not render claim 1 obvious. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection as it applies to claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 4, 9, 13, 22, 23, 24 and 25 which are directly or indirectly dependent from claim 1 should also be allowable for at least the same reason.

In addition, regarding claim 2, Shoji does not disclose, teach or render foreseeable that a plurality of first antenna elements are provided in the first casing. The Office action states that the antenna 14 and 16 are provided in the first casing. However, the shield box 14 is provided within the upper casing 3 (Shoji; paragraph [0027], line 5), while the rod antenna 16 is mounted to the

lower casing 4 (Shoji; paragraph [0033], lines 4-5). Thus, either the shield box 14 or the rod antenna 16 disclosed in Shoji is not provided in the first casing, but is provided in the second casing.

In consideration of the foregoing analysis, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No.: NGB-37395.

Respectfully submitted,

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